

**In the Specification:**

Please replace the Title with the following:

**ENHANCING PLANT PATHOGEN RESISTANCE VIA INCREASING BiP LEVELS**

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

The present invention provides a method of reducing the period within which a plant's natural defence mechanism responds to attack by a plant pathogen, the method comprising causing the plant to maintain in at least a part of the plant a level of BiP, or a homologue thereof, which is greater than the endogenous level for said plant in non-stressful conditions. Increased BiP levels can be achieved by transformation with a nucleic acid encoding BiP or calreticulin or modifying signal transduction pathways leading to BiP induction. The invention also provides for a modified plant produced by the method of the invention.

Please amend the 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph on page three as follows:

cDNAs of the tobacco homologue of the luminal binding protein (BiP) have been cloned (Denecke et al., 1991). BiP differs from other family members in the presence of an N-terminal signal sequence that is required for the co-translational translocation of proteins through the ER membrane. Another specific feature is the C-terminal tetrapeptide Lys-Asp-Glu-Leu (KDEL) (SEQ ID NO: 1) for mammals and His-Asp-Glu-Leu (HDEL) (SEQ ID NO: 2) for yeasts that serves as a general retention signal for soluble reticuloplasmins in the ER lumen.